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gled with the true Mongoloid Malays throughout the Oceanic domain (Indian and Pacific Oceans). But my object here is merely to establish my priority claim for the American readers of *Science*, who are referred to the above quoted monograph for the detailed treatment of these interesting questions. A. H. KEANE.

79 Broadhurst Gardens, South Hampstead, N. W., July 21.

Sound and Color.

WITHOUT in the least doubting the accuracy of Dr. Wallian's curious observations respecting the appearance of color about the heads of public speakers, I would just suggest the possibility of another explanation.

I have myself frequently observed, when listening to various preachers, a patch of rich blue color near to the head of the speaker. I have always attributed this, however, to the well-known effect upon the retina of fatigue from the continued impression of one color giving rise to a phantasm of the complementary color. The face of a speaker is some tint of flesh color. The eye of the listener is fixed upon the face, and in a short time the complementary phantasm makes its appearance, always some tint of blue or purple, according to the complexion of the speaker.

This will not, of course, explain all the phenomena mentioned by Professor Underwood and Dr. Wallian, but it is a factor which should not be forgotten in discussing the subject.

F. T. MOTT.

Leicester, England.

BOOK-REVIEWS.

A Biographical Index of British and Irish Botanists. By JAMES BRITTEN and G. S. BOULGER. London, West, Newman & Co., 1893. 203 p.

MESSRS. Britten and Boulger have republished in book form their "Index of British and Irish Botanists." The matter originally appeared in the *Journal of Botany* from 1888 until 1891, but in 203 pages of the reprint a large amount of additional material is

given. This is shown by the fact that 1,825 names are given in the volume, against 1,619 given in the *Journal of Botany*. In a succinct form and by means of a series of readily understood abbreviations there are given the dates of birth and of death, place of birth and death, place of burial, indication of social position or occupation, university degrees or titles or offices held, and dates of election to the Linnæan and Royal societies. Mention is also made of the whereabouts of any correspondence or MSS. and the existence of any herbarium or plants collected. Various biographical dictionaries, where further information may be obtained, are also referred to. Any portrait, original or engraved, and any genus, or, failing this, any species, dedicated to the person, is mentioned. From this it will be seen that a large amount of information is gathered within a small compass, and the volume will be of great assistance in looking up facts relative to any one of the 1,825 names included within its pages.

JOSEPH F. JAMES.

Washington, D. C., July 22.

AMONG THE PUBLISHERS.

HANN & ADAIR, Columbus, O., announce "A History of the German Language from the Earliest Times to the Present Day," by Chas. W. Super, president of the Ohio University at Athens. The purpose of the author has been to write a book that may be read with interest and profit by persons whose knowledge of German does not extend beyond the rudiments. It has been his aim to make fully prominent the common origin of the English and German languages and to use many facts of the former to elucidate those of the latter, so far as it can be done within the space at command. The book also discusses incidentally some phenomena common to all civilized tongues. By the same author is "Weil's Order of Words in the Ancient Languages Compared with that of the Modern Languages," published by Ginn & Co., Boston, Mass.

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A complete set of Bulletins of U. S. Geological Survey, various reports and bulletins of surveys of Missouri, Arkansas, Minnesota, Alabama, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio and Texas; iron ores of Minnesota; Wailes' Agriculture and Geology of Mississippi (rare). To exchange for periodicals and books on Entomology or for Lepidoptera. Rev. John Davis, the Deanery, Little Rock, Ark.

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For sale or exchange for copper coins or rare postage stamps. Tryon's American Marine Conchology, containing hand colored figures of all the shells of the Atlantic coast of the United States. Presentation copy, autograph, etc. One vol., half morocco, 8vo, usual price, \$2, postpaid, \$15. Botany of the Fortieth Parallel of the Hundredth Meridian of the Pacific R. R. Survey. Other Botanical works and works on Ethnology. F. A. Hassler, M.D., Santa Ana, Cal.

I have a fire-proof safe, weight 1,150 pounds, which I will sell cheap or exchange for a gasoline engine or some other things that may happen to suit. The safe is nearly new, used a short time only. Make offers. A. Lagerstrom, Cannon Falls, Minn., Box 857.

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I wish to exchange a collection of 7,000 shells, 1001 species and varieties, American and foreign, land, fluviatile and marine, for a good microscope and accessories. Address, with particulars, Dr. Lorenzo G. Yates, Santa Barbara, California.

Wants.

WANTED.—Panorpidæ, Myrmeleontinæ, and literature on the same. Chas. C. Adams, Bloomington, Ill.

WANTED.—Assistant in Nautical Almanac office, Navy Department. The Civil Service Commission will hold an examination on August 15 to fill a vacancy in the position of assistant (computer) in the Nautical Almanac office. The subjects will be letter-writing, penmanship, trigonometry, rudiments of analytical geometry and calculus, logarithms, theory and practice of computations, and astronomy. Each applicant must provide himself with a five-place logarithmic table. The examination will be held in Washington, and if applications are filed in season, arrangements may be made for examinations in the large cities. Blanks will be furnished upon application to the Commission at Washington.

DRAFTSMEN WANTED.—The Civil Service Commission will hold examinations on August 15 to fill two vacancies in the War Department; one in the position of architectural draftsman, salary \$1,400, the other in the position of assistant draftsman, Quartermaster General's office, salary \$1,200. The subjects of the architectural draftsman examination are letter-writing, designing specifications and mensuration, and knowledge of materials; of the assistant draftsman examination they are letter-writing, tracing, topographic drawing and projections. The examination will be held in Washington, and if applications are filed in season, arrangements may be made for examinations in the large cities. Blanks will be furnished upon application to the Commission at Washington.

A YOUNG man who has been through the course in mathematics in Princeton University, wishes some tutoring this summer. Rates reasonable. Address P. H. Westcott, Cramer's Hill, Camden Co., N. J.

A GRADUATE of an American Polytechnic institution and of a German university (Göttingen), seeks a position to teach chemistry in a college or similar institution. Five years' experience in teaching chemistry. Address Chemist, 757 Cary St., Brockton, Mass.

A N experienced teacher in general biology wishes a position in a first-class college or university. Three years in post-graduate study. Extensive experience. Strong endorsements. Address E. W. Doran, Ph.D., 1327 G St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

THE American Bell Telephone COMPANY.

125 MILK ST., BOSTON, MASS.

This Company owns the Letters-Patent No. 186,787, granted to Alexander Graham Bell, January 30th, 1877, the scope of which has been defined by the Supreme Court of the United States in the following terms:

"The patent itself is for the mechanical structure of an electric telephone to be used to produce the electrical action on which the first patent rests. The third claim is for the use in such instruments of a diaphragm, made of a plate of iron or steel, or other material capable of inductive action; the fifth, of a permanent magnet constructed as described with a coil upon the end or ends nearest the plate; the sixth, of a sounding box as described; the seventh, of a speaking or hearing tube as described for conveying the sounds; and the eighth, of a permanent magnet and plate combined. The claim is not for these several things in and of themselves, but for an electric telephone in the construction of which these things or any of them are used."

This Company also owns Letters-Patent No. 463,569, granted to Emile Berliner, November 17, 1891, for a combined Telegraph and Telephone, and controls Letters-Patent No. 474,231, granted to Thomas A. Edison, May 3, 1892, for a Speaking Telegraph, which cover fundamental inventions and embrace all forms of microphone transmitters and of carbon telephones.

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QUERY.

Can any reader of *Science* cite a case of lightning stroke in which the dissipation of a small conductor (one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter, say,) has failed to protect between two horizontal planes passing through its upper and lower ends respectively? Plenty of cases have been found which show that when the conductor is dissipated the building is not injured to the extent explained (for many of these see volumes of Philosophical Transactions at the time when lightning was attracting the attention of the Royal Society), but not an exception is yet known, although this query has been published far and wide among electricians.

First inserted June 19, 1891. No response to date.

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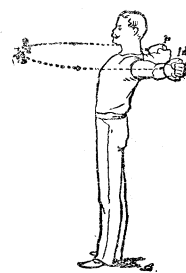
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